

Dutch Water Line Route

4 days, € 345



Introduction



If you are interested in military heritage, this could be the cycling tour for you. It follows a former Defensive Line through tranquil countryside. Along the way, you will come across forts, tenches fortified towns, sluices, rivers and areas of natural beauty. The lovely towns of Culemborg, Leerdam, Gorinchem and Vianen will be sure to enchant you. They exude a historical atmosphere, we also recommend a visit to Loevestein castle. How wonderful to be able to discover all these great places by bike!

Day to Day

Day 1 **Arrival in Bunnik**
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Day 2 **Bunnik - Gorinchem**

60 km

From Bunnik, cycle past Fort bij Vechten to the Plofsluis, a unique type of sluice. It had to be blown up with explosives in order to block the canal so that the water intended for flooding certain areas of land could not flow into the canal instead. Next, cycle across Eiland van Schalkwijk, a true open-air museum for lovers of cultural and military history and nature. Discover imposing Fort Honswijk, Fort Werk aan de Korte Uitweg (with a fantastic tea garden), the trenches at Werk aan de Groeneweg and Fort Lunet aan de Snel. Cross the River Lek towards the historical town of Culemborg and cycle past Werk aan het Spoel, which has an appealing eatery with outdoor seating in the sunshine. The route continues past Fort Everdingen, home to Duits&Lauret beer brewery with tasting room. Then proceed to Diefdijlinie where you can look at some group shelters (bunkers). Subsequently, you will pass Fort Asperen, where you can look at contemporary art on display inside a tower fort. The tower fort sits on the bank of the River Linge. Its vault ceiling has been restored in a special, colourful way. It's a good idea to stop for a break at the tavern. Next, set off for Fort Vuren. Then, enjoying great views of the River Waal, cycle to your destination of the day, the fortified town of Gorinchem.



Day 3 **Gorinchem - Bunnik**

63 km

Start the day with a short stroll through the fortified town of Gorinchem. This is one of the best-preserved fortified towns in the Netherlands. It boasts earthen town walls, windmills and impressive cannons. The friendly town centre boasts many cafes with outdoor seating, especially on the Oude Markt, old market square.

From Gorinchem, cycle to the city of Leerdam, known for its cheese and glass. If you like decorative glass, don't miss the glass museum.

After that, you will cycle to Vianen. The city has lost its fortifications, but you can still see that it used to be a fortified town when you look at the street plan, the town walls and Lekpoort, the town gate that led to the River Lek. Vianen has 190 listed buildings of national historical importance. The Voorstraat is the place to be for a drink or a good meal or to do some shopping.

Cross the River Lek by ferry. The historical town of Vreeswijk has three beautiful locks: Oude Sluis, Rijkshulpschutsluis, and Koninginnesluis. The journey continues to Fort Jutphaas, hidden away in a green oasis within urbanised Nieuwegein. The park-like terrain is open to the public.

From Nieuwegein your route continues to the city of Utrecht. Via the 4 historic Lunetten (small fortifications) in the Lunetten neighborhood of Utrecht and the inner city of Utrecht you cycle to Landgoederen Amelisweerd and Rhijnauwen and past Fort Rijnauwen, the largest fort of the New Dutch Water Line. From here, you will cycle back to your hotel in Bunnik.

Day 4 **Return Home**

After enjoying your hotel breakfast, it is time to go back home. Do you still have time to visit the city of Utrecht? From Bunnik station it is an eight-minute train trip to Utrecht Central Station. Utrecht is the fifth-largest city in the Netherlands. We recommend you visit the historical canal area, unique for its quays where you can sit sipping your drink in peace and quiet, away from the bustle of the street above.



Prices, Data, Booking

Starting dates:

Daily from April 1 till September 28.

Price pp		€
Double room, breakfast		340.00
Single room, breakfast		490.00
Extra night double room, breakfast only		80.00
Upgrades pp/night		€
Boutique Hotel Karel de Stoute, Gorinchem		25.00
Rental bike		€
Child bike		33.00
Hybrid		39.00
E-bike		81.00
Extra services		€
Bike Breakdown pass	€ 4.00 x 3	12.00
Child seat	€ 5.00 x 3	15.00
Bike theft insurance	€ 3.00 x 3	9.00
E-bike theft insurance	€ 6.00 x 3	18.00
Extra luggage	€ 5.00 x 3	15.00
Tag-along bike	€ 6.00 x 3	18.00
Child trailer	€ 17.50 x 3	52.50
Bike helmet	per piece	10.00
SGR	per piece	5.00

Starting point:

Bunnik

Accommodation

The hotels and the B&B on this trip have been carefully selected for their location, atmosphere and/or unique services. All rooms are en-suite. A list of the accommodation we work with appears below. If a certain accommodation is unable to confirm due to lack of availability, we will try to request a comparable alternative if possible. When selecting the accommodation, we try to take into account as much as possible a safe and closed bicycle shed. However, we cannot do this with all of them guarantee and this partly depends on the number of bicycles of other guests.



Postillion Hotel Bunnik *** (Bunnik)

www.postillionhotels.com/nl-utrecht-bunnik



Hotel Gorinchem*** (Gorinchem)

www.hotelgorinchem.nl



Practical Info



3 Nights included



3/4 Star Hotels



Breakfast included



Detailed roadbooks with maps and tourist information



The possibility of renting our bikes



7-days a week service-hotline



Luggage transport to your next hotel



Bunnik



Parking possibilities at the hotel



GPS-tracks available



Any ferry crossings are not included

Arrival info



Nearest Airport is Amsterdam Airport Schiphol (AMS)



The train from Schiphol to Bunnik departs 2 times per hour. Travel time is about 45 minutes. A single ticket costs approx €11- per person excl. bicycle.

For timetables and tickets, go to www.ns.nl/en. For bus details, how to reach the hotel, check: www.9292.nl/en.

